

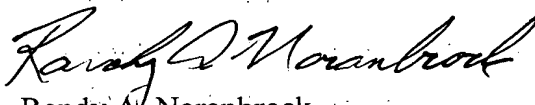
**REMARKS:**

The specification and claims of the referenced application have been amended in accordance with common U.S. Patent Practice and to remove the multiple dependencies of claims 3 to 6 and 8. Claim 9 has been cancelled. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments. Entry is in order.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

**LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP**



Randy A. Noranbrock  
Registration No. 42,940

Customer Number: 22429  
1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 310  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 684-1111 AML/eb  
Facsimile: (703) 518-5499  
**Date: July 21, 2004**